



30 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: GCSE Design and Technology (AQA)**

We're really pleased that your son/daughter has continued to study GCSE Design and Technology and would like to tell you a little about the remainder of the course and our expectations

Students should have now begun their Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) – which accounts for 50% of their final GCSE grade.

Following the completion of the NEA students will revise and prepare for their Year 11 PPE exam – please note this is later than the other school PPE exams due to our tight deadlines for the NEA. The final GCSE exam is currently indicated as **18<sup>th</sup> June**.

Over the last few years, the cost of materials for Design and Technology has increased hugely and we request a *contribution towards* (not the full cost of) the materials to be bought-in needed to complete their NEA practical modelling and work. **For Year 11 the sum of this is £15.00**; which enables us to buy in the timber, polymers, metals, etc. needed throughout the year; if a student chooses to use specialist materials, fixings and finishes these may have needed to be bought separately.

Please pay by either the school's online payment system <https://www.scopay.com/castleschool-somerset>, by cash or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone with the Finance Department).

Yours sincerely

Mr J Batchelor  
**Head of D&T Department**  
**The Castle School**

